

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims, which replace all previous versions and listings of the claims.

1. (original) A fan tray, comprising:
a multiple fan chassis having a plurality of fan supports, wherein the chassis is mountable in an electronic device and is movable to a withdrawn access position adapted to provide access to the plurality of fan supports and, wherein the multiple fan chassis comprises airflow passages directed from the plurality of fan supports into the electronic device in the withdrawn access position.
2. (original) The fan tray set forth in claim 1, comprising a continuous power connector adapted to maintain power to the multiple fan chassis in the withdrawn access position.
3. (original) The fan tray set forth in claim 1, wherein the multiple fan chassis comprises at least one mounting latch adapted to secure the multiple fan chassis to the electronic device.
4. (original) The fan tray set forth in claim 1, wherein the plurality of fan supports comprise a latch-mountable fan receptacle.
5. (original) The fan tray set forth in claim 1, wherein the plurality of fan supports comprise a lateral fan receptacle.
6. (original) The fan tray set forth in claim 1, wherein the plurality of fan supports comprise a side-mounting mechanism disposed on at least two different sides of the multiple fan chassis.

7. (original) The fan tray set forth in claim 1, wherein the plurality of fan supports comprise a first set of sequential fan mounts and a second set of sequential fan mounts, wherein the first and second sets of sequential fan mounts are adapted to orient fans to provide first and second airflows that are substantially parallel with one another.

8. (original) The fan tray set forth in claim 1, comprising a fan mounted to each of the plurality of fan supports.

9. (original) A system, comprising:
a chassis;

a multiple fan tray disposed in the chassis and movable between an installed position and an extracted position, wherein the multiple fan tray comprises an airflow passage pneumatically coupled with the chassis in both the installed position and the extracted position.

10. (original) The system set forth in claim 9, wherein the chassis comprises a computer.

11. (original) The system set forth in claim 9, wherein the chassis comprises a rack mount structure.

12. (original) The system set forth in claim 9, wherein the chassis comprises a rack mountable device.

13. (original) The system set forth in claim 9, wherein the multiple fan tray comprises a plurality of fan receptacles disposed on different sides of the multiple fan tray.

14. (original) The system set forth in claim 9, wherein the multiple fan tray comprises a plurality of fans mounted in series.

15. (original) The system set forth in claim 9, wherein the multiple fan tray comprises first and second sets of fans mounted in series, wherein the first set is substantially parallel to the second set.

16. (original) The system set forth in claim 9, comprising a power connector extendable between the installed position and the extracted position to maintain power to the multiple fan chassis.

17. (currently amended) A fan assembly for cooling an electronic device, comprising:

means for jointly mounting a plurality of fans in the electronic device movably between inserted and removed positions of the means for jointly mounting relative to the electronic device; and

means for maintaining continuous air flow from at least one fan of the plurality of fans in both the inserted and removed positions.

18. (original) The fan assembly set forth in claim 17, wherein the means for maintaining continuous air flow comprise means for providing continuous power to the at least one fan in both the inserted and removed positions.

19. (original) The fan assembly set forth in claim 17, wherein the means for maintaining continuous air flow comprise means for directing the air flow into the electronic device in both the inserted and removed positions.

20. (original) A method of operating an electronic device, comprising:
removably inserting into the electronic device a multiple fan assembly that is adapted to maintain airflow through the electronic device in both an inserted position and in a withdrawn position.

21. (original) The method set forth in claim 20, comprising connecting between the multiple fan assembly and the electronic device a power connector that is adapted to maintain power to the multiple fan assembly in both the inserted position and in the withdrawn position.

22. (original) The method set forth in claim 20, wherein removably inserting comprises slidably moving the multiple fan assembly in alignment with an airflow direction of fans disposed in the multiple fan assembly.

23. (original) The method set forth in claim 20, comprising installing at least one fan into the multiple fan assembly in a direction substantially perpendicular to a flow direction of the at least one fan.

24. (original) The method set forth in claim 20, comprising replacing at least one problematic fan in the multiple fan assembly with a replacement fan during operation of remaining fans disposed in the multiple fan assembly.

25. (original) A method of manufacturing a cooling system for an electronic device, comprising:

providing a multiple fan chassis movably mountable in the electronic device between an extended position and an installed position such that airflow is continuously directed through the electronic device in both the extended position and in the installed position.

26. (original) The method set forth in claim 25, wherein providing the multiple fan chassis comprises orienting fan receptacles to provide airflow aligned with movement of the multiple fan chassis between the extended and installed positions.

27. (original) The method set forth in claim 25, wherein providing the multiple fan chassis comprises forming first and second sequential sets of fan mounts in the multiple fan chassis, such that the first sequential set is substantially parallel to the second sequential set.

28. (original) The method set forth in claim 25, wherein providing the multiple fan chassis comprises forming a lateral fan mounting mechanism on at least two different sides of the multiple fan chassis.

29. (original) The method set forth in claim 25, comprising providing an extendible power connector that is adapted to extend a range of motion corresponding to the distance between the extended position and the installed position.

30. (new) The fan assembly set forth in claim 17, comprising a means for independently mounting the plurality of fans in the means for jointly mounting.